

Frederick County Commission on Disabilities (COD) Minutes

Monday, March 9, 2020

Winchester Hall

12 E. Church Street, Frederick, Maryland

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Karen Duffy, who recognized the existence of a quorum and called for approval of the meeting agenda, which was done by unanimous vote.

- II. Attendance

The following members were present: Karen Duffy, Amy Crehan, Evan Evans, Marsha Flowers, Karen Rushing, Jenn Tousey and Theresa Posthuma.

Kendall Tiffany, Darrell Batson, Erin Stup, Allison Stup, Crystal Gastley, Shauna Goodell, John Gretz, and County staff members Pat Fleet and Miles Ward were present.

- III. John Gretz made public comments on several issues including legislation.
- IV. Kendall Tiffany from the Frederick County Transit Division gave an informative presentation about the wide range of services that are offered to transport people with

disabilities. This includes regular bus routes, ADA Paratransit and Transit-Plus. All buses are ADA compliant, and Transit frequently handles requests for reasonable modifications to its existing ADA service policies or practices in order to ensure accessible services.

COD Member Marsha Flowers discussed several transportation issues she has been working on, including a visit she made to Baltimore to look at ADA design features that are being included in the construction of its subway system. Marsha noted that while the Washington DC system has many features to assist people who are deaf or hard of hearing, Baltimore does not. She made suggestions that lights and signs be included, and then made contact with the Governor's Office of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing to be sure they were aware of these issues.

V. Business

- A) Upon motion and vote, the minutes of the February 20, 2020 COD meeting were approved.
- B) Further discussion took place on whether the COD should plan and present a public event to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act. It was reported that The Arc on South Market Street was available and offered plenty of space for vendors, attendees and parking. Upon motion and vote it was agreed to spend up to \$450 for space rental and audio equipment for this

event. It was agreed that special attention needed to be paid to securing a large section of accessible parking, and to securing the services of enough American Sign Language interpreters to meet the demand that will be likely.

C) Upon motion and vote, the 2019 COD annual report will be modified to show that John Gretz has made presentations to the COD.

D) Christine Kay, the new Citizens Services Division Director, discussed recent changes that have been made to Frederick County's ADA Title II program and website.

VI. The meeting was adjourned.